1	IN THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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4	IN RE: INVESTIGATION:
5	Case No. 2003-00433 AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE GAS AND ELECTRIC RATES,
6	TERMS, AND CONDITIONS OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
7	
8	and
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10	Case No. 2003-00434 AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE ELECTRIC RATES, TERMS, AND
11	CONDITIONS OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY
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13	* * *
14	
15	SWORN STATEMENT
16	OF
17	MICHAEL S. BEER
18	AUGUST 10, 2005
19	
20	
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## APPEARANCES SPECIAL GENERAL COUNSEL TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION: JONATHAN D. GOLDBERG Goldberg & Simpson 3000 National City Tower 101 South Fifth Street Louisville, Kentucky 40202 FOR THE WITNESS: DAVID KAPLAN Frost, Brown, Todd, LLC 3200 Aegon Center 400 West Market Street Louisville, Kentucky 40202

The sworn statement of MICHAEL S. 1 BEER, taken in the offices of Goldberg & Simpson, 2 3000 National City Tower, 101 South Fifth Street, 3 Louisville, Kentucky, on Wednesday, the 10th day of August, 2005, at approximately 1:00 p.m. 5 6 7 EXAMINATION 8 9 BY MR. GOLDBERG: Would you state your full name. 10 Q. Michael S. Beer, B-E-E-R. 11 Α. 12 Ο. Okay. And your business address? 220 West Main Street, Louisville, 13 Α. Kentucky, 40202. 14 15 0. Okay. And what is your occupation, Mr. Beer? 16 Α. I am an attorney by training. 17 Currently, I am the vice president of federal 18 regulation and policy for LG&E Energy Corp. 19 20 Q. Okay. Are you licensed to practice 21 law in the State of Kentucky? 22 Α. Not in Kentucky, but in the State of 23 Illinois. 24 Ο. Okay. And how long have you been in 25 your present position?

1 Α. Since -- it would have been February 2 of -- actually it would have been since October of 2004. 3 Q. Okay. Prior to October of 2004, were you employed by LG&E Energy, LLC? 5 Α. I was. 6 All right. Tell me -- let's go back 7 Q. to your original employment with LG&E Energy, LLC, and tell me the positions you've held. 9 All right. I started with the company 10 Α. 11 in February of 1998 as a senior corporate counsel. 12 was promoted two years later to senior counsel specialist regulatory. In February of 2001, I was 13 promoted to vice president, rates and regulatory 14 15 affairs. Then, as I said, I was promoted to -- or 16 reassigned to title of vice president, federal 17 regulation and policy, in 2004. Did your duties change from your 18 Q. 19 position in 2001 to 2004? 20 Α. Yes, they did. 21 Tell me the difference. Q. 22 As vice president of rates and Α. 23 regulatory affairs, I was responsible almost entirely 24 for the affairs of the company before the Kentucky

Public Service Commission, the Virginia State

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Corporation Commission and, to a very limited extent,
 1
     the Tennessee Regulatory Authority. We had affairs,
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     matters, pending, proceeding at FERC. To the extent
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     that they involved the company, I was also
     responsible for those. But at the time we had very
 5
     little proceeding, and so I focused primarily on
 6
     state issues.
 7
                    Okay. I take it you're familiar,
             Q.
 8
     then, with the Commonwealth of Kentucky Public
 9
     Service Commission?
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                     Yes, sir.
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             Α.
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             Q.
                    Okay. Are you familiar with the staff
13
     personnel there?
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             Α.
                     Yes.
                    Okay. Let me give you the names of
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             Q.
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     some folks, and let me see if you are familiar with
17
     them.
            Richard Raff?
             Α.
                     Yes.
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                    Okay. And how long do you think
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             Q.
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     you've known Richard Raff?
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                     I've known Richard since probably two
22
     weeks after I started with the company back in
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     February of '98.
                    Okay. Tom Dorman?
24
             Q.
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             Α.
                     Yes.
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1 Q. How long have you known Mr. Dorman? I've known Mr. Dorman since he assumed 2 Α. 3 his responsibilities as executive director at the Public Service Commission, and I -- the year escapes 5 me when that may have been. 0. 6 Okay. You had no contact with him in 7 a business sense prior to his becoming executive director? 8 9 None whatsoever. 10 Q. Did you know him on a personal basis? 11 Α. No, sir. 12 Q. Okay. Mr. Bob Amato? I've -- the exact date or the 13 14 timeframe in which I met Bob first is -- is hard to 15 pin down, but I have to assume it would have been in 16 '98 as well. 17 0. Okay. Isaac Scott? 18 Α. Same answer. 19 Q. Okay. And Jeff Shaw? 20 Same answer. Α. 21 Faud Sharifi? 0. 22 Α. I would have made acquaintance with 23 Faud later in '98, perhaps as early as -- as late as '99, but it would have been in that timeframe early 24 25 on in my employment with the company when I first

1 made their acquaintance -- his acquaintance. 2 Q. Ms. Martha Morton? 3 Α. Same answer. Let me ask you about some Q. 5 commissioners. Do you know Marty Huelsman? Α. Yes. 6 7 And how long have you known Q. Mr. Huelsman? 8 I knew -- first met Mr. Huelsman when 9 Α. he was the executive director at the Public Service 10 11 Commission prior to his ascending to the -- to the 12 commission. 13 Q. Okay. And Mr. Gary Gillis? 14 It would have been -- the first time I Α. met Mr. Gillis would have been as a commissioner, and 15 that would have been in February of 1998. 16 17 0. Mr. Robert Spurlin? 18 I would have made Mr. Spurlin's 19 acquaintance when he came onto the commission. 20 would have been after the retirement of Ed Holmes, I 21 believe. And I would say that's 2000, 2001 22 timeframe. 23 Present chairman, Mark David Goss? Q. 24 Α. I've known Mr. Goss only since he's 25 become chairman of the commission.

- Q. Okay. Ms. Ellen Williams?

  And if I may, when I say I know them,
- 4 capacity. I don't know them on any --
- Q. I was getting ready to ask you that.

I'm really saying I'm acquainted with them in their

- A. -- personal or social level.
- 7 Q. Okay.

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- A. Okay. Ms. Williams would be the same answer. I knew her only in her capacity as a member of the Public Service Commission.
- Q. Okay. Now, tell me -- and again,
  going back to the timeframe 2001, your position then
  through June 30, 2004 --
  - A. Mm-hmm.
- Q. -- tell me what kinds of matters you dealt with the Kentucky Public Service Commission on.
- 17 A. As -- as --
- 18 Q. What kinds of issues.
- A. As a fully-regulated public utility,

  we -- we operate very much in a fishbowl. There's

  very, very little that we do that isn't subject to

  the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission.

  And so as part of our relationship management with

  our chief regulator, we would talk with them,

communicate with them, be in contact with them on a

very wide array of issues pending -- ranging from the authority to -- to issue commercial paper, to engage in financings, territorial disputes with other electric utilities, issues of national policy concern such as RTO development, transmission policy. In one instance whether there was any interest in making available to another municipality water from our Lake Herrington reserve. Virtually anything -- tax issues. As I said, financing issues, corporate reorganization issues. Just about anything and everything that is the subject of their jurisdiction, we would have had contact with them. I would have had contact with them. I would have

- Q. Are you the chief contact person from LG&E/KU with the Kentucky Public Service Commission?
- A. While I was vice president of rates and regulatory affairs, yes, I was.
- Q. Okay. And again, my questions are all to that same time period, 2001 through June 30th, 2004.
  - A. Okay.
- Q. You would have been the chief spokesperson?
- 24 A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Now, as I understand the

relationship and the areas --

- A. Well, may I -- please, I don't want to be difficult, but when you say "chief spokesperson," my responsibilities would have been -- I was in charge of the relationship and the point of contact between the company and the commission.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. Who else besides you had contact with any of the staff members or commissioners with the Public Service Commission?
- A. It -- it could have been any number of people, but typically the way we tried to manage the relationship and the flow of information, we were the point of interface or contact with the Public Service Commission. And so if there were a need for communications to take place between the company and the commission, it would have been through our offices that those communications would have been made. So primarily it would have been myself and those folks who worked in the rates and regulatory affairs department, but certainly any number of other people within the company had contact with members of the commission staff during that timeframe on matters that related to their specific areas of -- of professional interest.
  - Q. Okay. Let's go through a few

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A. Okay.

Q. Obviously I've taken a statement of Mr. George Siemens.

A. Mm-hmm.

Q. Explain to me what kinds of things he would have been in contact with the Public Service Commission versus the kind of things you would, or is it the same?

Α. Mr. Siemens was actually -- was the vice president -- is the vice president of external affairs at the time. And Mr. Siemens' portfolio of responsibilities were different, clearly, than ours, and certainly to the extent that he was interfacing or would have interfaced with the commission on matters of state energy policy, things like that. Hе would not have gone through our offices to arrange for those kinds of meetings or those kinds of communications. But typically, as I understand the nature of Mr. Siemens' communications, they would have been primarily involving matters pending or about to be pending before the Kentucky legislature, bills, draft legislation that the Kentucky Public Service Commission either was supporting or opposing, development of the governor's energy task force,

development of state energy policy. Those kinds of things are -- are the things that I believe

Mr. Siemens would have been in contact with the commission about.

- Q. All right. Let me ask about some of the more mundane functions. When there are issues between your consumers as it relates to their meters, does the Public Service Commission interface with LG&E/KU on those kinds of things?
  - A. Yes, they do.

- Q. Would those communications come through your department or would somebody somewhere else in LG&E/KU have authority to communicate?
- A. Well, the responsibility for those specific issues, let's say meter disputes or billing disputes, would have arisen that responsibility rests within the retail services organization in the company. And the vice president over that is a gentleman named David Vogel. We worked with David's group to always be in the loop or in the pipeline when communications would occur between the consumer services group at the commission and the company. Primarily where disputes would arise to an informal complaint, say, we would be in that channel of communication. But there oftentimes would be direct

communication between someone in the -- in the retail group and Jenny Smith or someone on her staff that would handle those types of complaints or issues.

- Q. Okay. Would there be occasion for engineers or other mechanical personnel who actually deal with meters at LG&E/KU to communicate with persons at the Public Service Commission?
- A. Yes. There were -- there is required to be periodic meter testing, inspection of facilities, these kinds of things. Whenever there may have been a contract or injury or an accident, something like that, typically -- or maybe not engineers, but certainly technicians or folks responsible for metering facilities would have been in contact and -- and spoken directly with folks at the commission who had, as part of their responsibility, enforcement of meter testing regs or other standards that -- to which we would have been subject.
  - Q. Okay. And then third segmentation that I've become aware of as part of my work here is that various demand usage studies are ongoing at various times, as I understand it. Do you have anything to do with that?
  - A. When you say "demand usage studies," I

guess we -- there were a number of different kinds of studies that would be performed by members of the company. Some -- some of those may have -- have been developed with the assistance and input of my staff, but there would have been others who would have been involved in that as well, folks from retail, some of the --

- Q. Let me see if I can get to this a different way. Are you familiar with a staff member by the name of Daryl Newby?
- A. Yes, at the commission.
- 12 Q. Yes.

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- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Are you familiar with his function?
  - A. My involvement with Daryl has been limited. And the only knowledge I have of his function has been through the management audit branch and through his role in an audit of our earnings sharing mechanism that took place roughly in the 2003 timeframe. So Daryl may have had other responsibilities at the commission, but those are the ones that I know of, have knowledge of.
    - Q. Did that particular study come through your department, contact between PSC and LG&E/KU?
      - A. Yes. We were responsible for the

management of that audit process, and so there was a third-party independent contractor who had been hired to -- to actually perform the audit. And we were -- my group and me personally was responsible for the management of that audit process and the development of that final audit report. And Daryl was part of the management audit branch staff involved in that effort.

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- Q. And was that ongoing at the same time the LG&E/KU rate cases were being processed through the Public Service Commission, or do you know?
- A. The -- the -- the ESM audit, earnings sharing mechanism audit, as we referred to it, that process was ongoing, concurrent with the rate case proceeding. We filed a rate case, I believe it was in December of 2003. And it was during that period that a portion of the audit process was also ongoing.
- Q. Okay. I want to come back to this, but while we're here and talking about individuals and functions, am I interpreting your prior statement to me correctly that you, Mike Beer, have no personal or social relationship with any of the commissioners?
  - A. That is correct.
- Q. And commissioners being ones -- the present commissioners and the ones that I have named

for you. 1 2 Α. Correct. The only -- the only contact 3 I ever had with them outside of the commission would have been at industry or corporate 5 professional-related events. Okay. Now, with regard to that, I'm 6 Q. 7 familiar with an organization by the name of SEARUC and an organization by the name of NARUC. 8 Correct. 9 Α. 10 Ο. And I take it you attend those seminars regularly. 11 12 Correct. Α. 13 0. And am I also correct that members of the staff of the Public Service Commission and the 14 commissioners attend those functions? 15 16 They do. Α. 17 Q. Okay. Tell me generally what those two organizations do. 18 19 Α. The -- the NARUC organization is the National Association of Regulatory Utility 20 21 Commissioners. It is the nationwide trade 22 association, professional organization, if you will, 23 for public service commissioners across all of the 24 states who regulate retail, electric, gas, telephone,

water, whatever other kinds of services their states

regulate. They meet at least three times a year.

They are broken up into a number of different

committees. At each of these meetings the intent is

for the commissioners to get together, and they

convene and debate and discuss policy issues, matters

that are important and relevant to state regulation

of utilities, which typically is at the retail level.

At these meetings there are invited, by the

organization, members of the industry, professionals,

lawyers, accountants, academics, to come and present

papers, providing different professional viewpoints

on the issues that may be debated or be the subject

of those meetings.

NARUC typically debates resolutions that are ultimately passed by the larger body. They have no effect in law, per se, other than simply to reflect the collective thinking of regulatory utility commissioners around the country. And some of those debates are hotly contested, as you can imagine. So that occurs.

There is the winter meeting which occurs in Washington, D.C., usually in February or March. And that typically is a meeting to facilitate contact between state regulators and the federal regulators and members of the various congressional

delegations. There's the annual meeting that typically takes place in November, and then there's a summer meeting that typically takes place in the late July, August timeframe. And the summer meeting is typically where the committees all gather and -- and develop their committee agendas for the -- for the coming year.

Q. Okay.

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- A. SEARUC --
- Q. Go ahead.
- Α. SEARUC is the Southeast Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. And as NARUC represents the entirety of regulatory utility commissioners across the country, they are broken down into regional groups. For example, there's MARC, which is the Mid American Regulatory Commissioners. There's NECPUC, which is the Northeast Commission of Public Utility Commissioners. They're broken down by regions or smaller groups. SEARUC is the Southeast Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. And so these groups focus more on issues of concern to their specific region in the function or operation or regulation of utilities in those regions, and they typically meet once a year.

1 Q. Okay. During the time period that the 2 rate cases were pending, and actually let's use the 3 time period, if we can, 2003 through June 30th, 2004. During that period of time, I'm familiar with a NARUC convention in Denver in November of 2003. 5 Α. Mm-hmm. 6 7 Q. Did you attend that? 8 Α. Yes, I did. 9 Okay. And were members of the Q . 10 Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission 11 there --12 Α. Yes, they were. 13 Q. -- in attendance? 14 I'm also familiar with the Washington conference in February of 2004. Did you attend that? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 Okay. And were members of the Q. 18 Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission 19 there? 20 Α. I believe so, yes. 21 Okay. Now, the summer of 2003, do you Ο, 22 recall where the NARUC convention was? 23 Α. I believe in the summer of 2003 --24 2004, I believe, was in Salt Lake City. 2003 was --25 I was thinking that was in Denver.

Q. All right. Do you know, then, where the November would have been?

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- A. The November 2003 NARUC meeting would have been held in Atlanta.
- Q. Fair enough. And I take it at all of those three there were members of the Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission, both commission members and staff. Am I correct?
- I'm hesitating. Certainly in the --Α. 10 the Denver meeting and the Atlanta meeting there were 11 both members of the staff and commission present. Ιn 12 the February meeting, I'm struggling to recall 13 whether there were anyone other than just 14 commissioners present. There was a meeting at which 15 only commissioners attended, and I wouldn't want to 16 say that there were staff present when I can't 1.7 recall, in fact, whether staff were there at that 18 February, Washington meeting, but there were 19 certainly commissioners there.
  - Q. Do you have a recollection of Mr. Dorman being present at any or all of those meetings?
  - A. Mr. Dorman would have been present in Denver. Mr. Dorman would have been present in Atlanta. And I don't recall Mr. Dorman being present

in February, but he may well have been. I have no recollection of that.

- Q. Okay. And was Mr. Siemens present on behalf of LG&E/KU? I guess I should call it by its name, LG&E Energy, LLC?
- A. Mr. Siemens -- I'm trying to recall whether George was at Denver, and I simply can't do it. I believe -- I don't believe George was in Atlanta. I do believe he may have been there in February in Washington.
- Q. Okay. Now, do I take it that sometime early in 2003, LG&E Energy, LLC, decided for both LG&E and KU to move forward and file a rate case sometime in the year 2003?
- A. That decision actually -- as I take your question, the decision to move forward with the filing of a rate case was not made until much later in the year. Frankly, it was not made up until the time the statutory notice of intent was filed.
- Q. I'm representing to you that was late November of 2003.
- A. Late November of 2003. What had been decided at that point, what had been identified was the need to seriously consider the preparation of an application for an adjustment in rates. And we began

the process at that point of preparing to file a case. But it was very clear to me and had been made very clear to me by senior management that no decision had been made to actually proceed with that filing and none would be made until after the close of -- of the test year that we had identified.

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- Q. All right, sir. When do you first have a recollection of the consideration of a rate case being filed?
- we had begun looking at whether it would be feasible to file a rate case in late 2002, and the decision was made at the time that it would -- it would not be feasible at that time to -- to make such a filing.

  And so we continued to analyze our financial condition and situation and began in 2003 planning in earnest on the assumption that we needed to be in a position to file a case to begin getting the internal team to do the necessary studies and the requisite analysis that would support that -- that application.
- Q. Okay. Who put together the teams that would go through that study period?
- A. I was responsible for -- with the approval and the concurrence of certainly John McCall, our general counsel.

Q. You report to John McCall?

- A. I report to John McCall, yes. But I

  would have been responsible for assembling the -- at

  least the steering committee, the leadership team,

  for that effort, who then would have gone out and

  marshaled the resources within the company that would

  be required to perform that analysis.
  - Q. Okay. Who would you consider the team that made the decision ultimately to move forward and file at least the notice of intent in November of 2003?
  - A. There wasn't a team. It was

    Mr. Staffieri, who ultimately made the decision, our

    chairman, president and CEO.
  - Q. Wrong question, Mr. Beer. Who internally participated in the decision?
    - A. That would have --
  - Q. What I'm looking for is the people around the meeting room who participated.
    - A. The -- well, it really occurred at two levels. There was more or less a senior steering committee, or leadership team that would have been comprised of -- I was the chairman of that, or the head of that group. There was representatives from the law department. Dot O'Brien, Dorothy O'Brien was

deputy general counsel. Valerie Scott, who at the time was the director of accounting. There were -
I'm trying to go around the room and recall who exactly would have been -- who else would have been on the team. For example, Ron Miller, who was over our corporate tax -- is over our corporate tax function.

Primarily director levels, what we would consider senior managers, who would be responsible for a component of the overall rate filing were the ones that were directing the fieldwork and the analysis. And then ultimately that decision was made -- ultimately that analysis was fed up to Mr.-- Mr. Reeves, who was our CFO, Brad Reeves, John McCall and Vic Staffieri.

- Q. All right. Externally, who was involved?
- A. Externally, we had the law firm of Ogden, Newell & Welch, represented primarily by --
  - Q. Kendrick Riggs?

A. Kendrick Riggs. I've only spent most of my life with him. Bob Watts from Stoll, Keenon. We had from a consulting group the Prime Group, Steve Seelye as an analyst and consultant. We had Bob Rosenberg, who typically does our cost of service --

or cost of capital analysis. 1 2 Q. Is he an outside person? Α. He's an outside person as well. 3 I'm trying to go through the list --5 0. What is the name of his company; do you know? 6 7 Α. You know, it's -- off the top of my head, I can't recall. Is he in Louisville? 9 0. No, no. Mr. Rosenberg is located in 10 Α. 11 Vermont, I believe. Tell me what his function was with 12 Q. 13 regard to the rate cases. 14 Α. His function was to perform cost of 15 capital study and come up with a proposed return on equity that he felt that he could support and sustain 16 17 based upon his professional expertise. 18 Q. Did he testify as an expert? 19 Α. Yes, he did. 20 Was his testimony prefiled with the Q. 21 commission or did he actually make a personal 22 appearance at the commission? 23 It was prefiled as part of the Α. 24 application that was filed in -- in December of 2003. 25 Then he was available and was present for

1 cross-examination had -- had he been called upon to 2 be examined.

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- Q. Okay. Was he physically present, to your knowledge, beginning on April 28th, 2004, which is the date of the first informal conference, through the end of the next week, which were the actual hearing dates?
- I can't -- I can't say whether he was 9 present on the date of the initial informal 10 conference because I was not present on that 11 occasion. I was elsewhere working on a matter 12 related to the rate case. He was physically present for a period thereafter. I believe it was through 13 14 that period of time that he would have been 15 physically present in Louisville. That's my 16 recollection.
  - Q. Okay. Physically present at the Public Service Commission or here in Louisville? You if you can't recall, you can't recall.
    - A. I'm sorry, I just can't recall.
  - Q. That's all right. Anybody else you can think of externally that was part of the team?
  - A. Well, as I mentioned, Steve Seelye, from Indiana. And he was physically present at the Public Service Commission during that time period.

Q. What I'm looking for, Mr. Beer, is anybody who would have knowledge of this matter.

Mr. Rosenberg is new to me. That's why I'm curious about him.

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- A. Yeah, Mr. Rosenberg was one of our testifying experts that had been representing the company for a long period of time. I'm trying to recall -- those are the names that I recall.
- Q. Okay. Now, going back to the period of time which you've identified for me, late 2002, when the rate case possibility -- if that's a fair term -- came up for LG&E Energy, LLC, consideration. Did you ever have any contact with any staff member at the Public Service Commission about the right cases or the possibility of the rate cases? And let's do this. Let's break this down into two ways. Prefiling, which would have been prior to notice of intent filed late November 2003, and post notice of intent filing.
- A. There had -- there had been -- because of the operation of the earnings sharing mechanism and because of the position the company was in relative to its -- its allowed earnings and the fact that it had filed an adjustment under that mechanism recovering a substantial amount of money from -- from

the rate payers, there was speculation and there were
a number of rumors floating around that -- that -expectations that the company had to file a rate
case.

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And, you know, our response to that was that, you know, the company certainly is aware of its financial position, and it would be imprudent if it weren't constantly looking at ways and means available to it to -- to shore up its financial position. The rumors were pervasive. And at one point in time, I think in late -- it would have been in late 2002, to address the rumors that -- that I was aware of swirling around and the fact that we weren't going to be filing a rate case in 2002, I had a very brief conversation with Mr. Dorman that simply said, "Tom, there's rumors everywhere that we're coming in here with a rate case. We're not coming in here with a rate case. There's" -- "there's no need to expect it." And I didn't give him any indication that we would be filing a rate case, that we were doing anything more than what we'd said we'd always been doing, and that was simply constantly evaluating what options we have, our financial conditions and situations and performance and when and if and whether it would be an opportune time to file a rate

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- Q. Other than that communication, was there any other communications with the staff prior to notice of intent filing of late November 2003 that you personally participated in?
- Α. That I personally participated in. 6 Right before -- and I can't give you the timeframe, 7 but the decision on our part had been made to file a statutory notice of intent, which would have been 9 10 late November, mid-November of 2003, courtesy call. 11 And I believe I had that call again with Mr. Dorman, simply to say basically, "Tomorrow morning we will be 12 13 filing a statutory notice of intent to file a rate 14 case on or before the end of this year," whatever the 15 language of that notice was.

But it was -- it was certainly no sooner than that, and the intent was nothing more than we didn't want the commission to hear about it or read about it the first thing in the papers the next morning. And so it was literally nothing more than -- no details, nothing other than the fact that this would be filed the next day.

- Q. Other than those two communications, any others with the staff?
  - A. None that I participated in.

1 Q. Any communication between yourself and 2 any member of the commission during that same time period? 3 Α. None. 5 0. Okav. 6 Α. None. 7 Q. Now, so that I'm clear, through the notice of intent to file a rate case from the 2002 9 date, this study time period, you would have attended NARUC and SEARUC conventions where either 10 11 commissioners or staff or both were present, correct? 12 Α. Correct. 13 Is it your statement that at no time Q. 14 did you ever discuss rate cases or the possibility of 15 a rate case with the commissioners or staff at any 16 SEARUC or NARUC or other convention? 17 Α. That is my statement. 18 Q. All right. To your knowledge, did any 19 member or employee of LG&E Energy, LLC, have any 20 discussions with either commission members or staff, 21 other than the two conversations you've told me 22 about, prior to notice of intent to file in late 23 November 2003, to your knowledge? 24 Α. To my knowledge, none -- none took 25 place.

Okay. In addition to attendance at 1 Ο. 2 seminars, it's also my understanding that LG&E Energy, LLC, kept an office, along with other 3 regulated utilities, at 715 or 8 -- I forget --Shelby Street in Frankfort, Kentucky. Am I correct? 5 Α. Correct. 6 Okay. In your duties did you have 7 Q. opportunity to visit that site from time to time? 8 I did visit that site. 9 Α. 10 Q. Okay. And when you visit that site, 11 have you ever been socially engaged or in business 12 engaged with Tom Dorman? I don't recall ever being in that 13 Α. 14 office during a time period where Mr. Dorman would 15 have been present. 16 Q. Okay. Now, as you would expect, we've also had statement from Mr. Siemens and Mr. Dorman, 17 18 so we know physically that both of those gentlemen go there from time to time. But it's your statement 19 20 that you were never there at any time when Mr. Dorman 21 was there. 22 Α. I don't recall ever being there with 23 Mr. Dorman, no, sir. 24 Ο. Fair enough. How about any other 25 commission members?

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1
             Α.
                     I don't recall ever being there with
2
     any of the other -- any other member of the staff or
     commissioners.
 3
                     Fair enough. And I take it that --
             Ο.
     well, strike that.
 5
                     Are you familiar with a term called
 6
     "Steak Night"?
 7
             Α.
                     Yes.
 8
                     Tell me what you know about Steak
 9
             Q.
10
     Night.
                     Well, all I know about Steak Night is
11
             Α.
     secondhand because I never attended one.
12
                     Fair enough. So you've never
13
             Q .
     participated in Steak Night?
14
15
             Α.
                     Never participated in a Steak Night.
16
             O.
                     Okay. You are familiar with the term
17
     "Kentucky Night."
18
             Α.
                     Yes.
19
             Q.
                     Okay. And have you participated in
20
     Kentucky Night? I presume you have.
21
             Α.
                     Yes.
22
                     And as I understand it, Kentucky Night
             Q .
23
     is a dinner at NARUC or SEARUC, possibly other
     seminars, that is for people from Kentucky. Am I
24
25
     correct?
```

1 Α. Correct. 2 Q. Okay. Focusing in on Kentucky Night, I take it that Public Service Commission members and 3 staff attended those during the year 2003 and 2004. 5 Α. Correct. 6 Q. Okay. You have a recollection of ever having discussed the rate cases with any commission 7 member or staff member at a Kentucky Night function? 8 9 I had no such discussions. 10 Q. Fair enough. Okay. Let me turn to your participation, if any, in the fall of 2003 prior 11 to the notice of intent to file with a company by the 12 name of North American Stainless. 13 14 Α. Mm-hmm. 15 Q. Are you familiar with the controversy 16 between KU and North American Stainless? 17 Α. Yes 18 Ο. As I understand it, North American 19 Stainless filed a complaint in September of 2003. 20 Α. Correct. 21 Q. Okay. And LG&E Energy, LLC, filed 22 shortly thereafter for a tariff, special tariff. 23 Α. Correct. 24 Also sometime in either late September 25 or October of 2003.

A. Correct.

2.1

- Q. With regard to the North American
  Stainless matter, did you have an opportunity to have
  discussions with the staff of the Kentucky Public
  Service Commission prior to notice of intent to file,
  which occurred later in November of 2003?
- A. Prior to the notice of intent to file, no.
  - Q. Okay. So that we're clear, you had no communication after the filing of the complaint and the tariff in September of 2003 with the commission staff about the complaint or the tariff.
    - A. That's correct.
  - Q. Okay. We now arrived at the November 30th, 2003 date, and what I'm trying to do is walk you through this chronologically so that you don't have to remember it all at one time. Do you recollect having any communication with the staff or commission members about either the North American Stainless case or the rate cases? And we can now refer to the rate cases as 00433 -- that's the LG&E case -- and 00434, between notice of intent and actual filing, late December 2004?
  - A. And your question is whether I had any communication --

1 Right. Q. 2 -- regarding NAS or the rate cases? Α. 3 Q. Yes. No. Α. 5 Q. Okay. I -- certainly I don't recall any 6 Α. about NAS, and I can -- I can -- I would not have had 7 any on -- and recall none about the rate case. 8 9 0. Okay. Subsequent to the rate cases 10 being filed, what was your participation in the rate cases from filing until date of informal conference, 11 12 which would have been April 28, 2004? 13 I actually wore two hats in that 14 process: One as a testifying witness for the company 15 on the regulatory policy issues relating to the -- to 16 the proposed increase in rates; and the other was as 17 being the person who was team leader for the managing 18 and process internally of taking what was initially a 19 concept and -- and refining that to a formal rate 20 application with supporting tariff changes and 21 prefiled testimony and all that was statutorily

Okay. Were you responsible for

required to support the application.

Q.

22

1 Α. Yes. Okay. Were you responsible for 2 Q. drafting or overseeing the drafting of requests made 3 to other parties? For overseeing the drafting of those 5 Α. 6 requests, yes. 7 All right. From date of filing, late December 2003, to the informal conference, other than 8 9 in the normal function of preparing document 10 requests, did you have any contact -- preparing and sending document requests, have any contact with the 11 12 staff or commission members? 13 In general? Α. Yes, sir. No, related to the rate 14 Ο. 15 cases --16 Oh, related to the rate cases. Α. -- or the North American Stainless 17 Q. 18 case. I don't recall -- I don't recall any 19 Α. 20 communications with staff. Certainly none with the 21 commission. 22 Okay. Fair enough. Commission Q. 23 members? 24 Α. Commission members. Commissioners. 25 Q. Okay. Do you have a recollection of

sometime in the spring of 2004 that the North 1 American Stainless case was consolidated with the 2 rate cases? 3 Yes, I do recall that. Α. Did you participate in that procedural 5 Ο. matter? 6 When you say "participate in the Α. 7 procedural matter," what do you mean? 8 Did you oversee the filing of 9 0 .. pleadings with regards to the consolidation? 10 Yes, I would have been over that 11 Α. 12 process. And did you participate in the 13 Q. Okay. decision to request the Public Service Commission to 14 15 consolidate the cases? 16 Α. Yes. 17 Okay. Now, focusing in on the Ο. consolidation, do you have a recollection of any 18 conversations with the staff or commission members? 19 There may have been an informal 20 Α. conference around that time period to which all of 21 the parties would have been invited. It would have 22 been a publicly-noticed proceeding, but I don't 23 24 recall having any conversations directly with staff on any aspect of the NAS case. 25

- Q. Fair enough. April 28, 2004 is the
  date of the informal conference. Prior to the
  informal conference, had LG&E Energy, LLC, engaged in
  discussions with the intervening parties about the
  rate cases?
  - A. Prior to April 28th?
  - Q. Yes.

6

7

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1.8

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22

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Tell me who you would identify as interveners in the two rate cases.
- Well, even though they're a party as a Α. matter of law, I always consider the attorney general to be an intervener. The KIUC, Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers. There was -- Kroger Corporation was an intervener. North American Stainless. There was the consortium of low-income groups, both for Louisville and Lexington. There was the Department of Defense. There was the Lexington-Fayette County Urban Government. Tom Fitzgerald in -- what was it, the Kentucky Resource Defense Counsel was an intervener. I'm probably forgetting somebody. think there was a total of 13 interveners in the rate case.
- Q. Okay. You did very well, Mr. Beer.

  You only missed one, the Kentucky Department of

```
1
     Energy.
 2
              Α.
                     Okay. You're right.
                     That's a quiz I've given everyone.
 3
              Ο.
                     And they certainly were present.
 4
              Α.
                     Now, do I take it you were involved --
 5
              Q.
     "you" being LG&E Energy, LLC -- with all interveners
 6
     prior -- engaged in conversation prior to April 28,
 7
     20042
 8
                     Actually, I wouldn't say that we were
 9
              Α.
10
     involved with all of the interveners, but we were
     certainly involved with many.
11
                     Okay. Do you specifically recall
12
              Ο.
     conversations with members of the attorney general's
13
14
     staff?
15
              Α.
                     Yes, sir.
16
              Q.
                     And do you recall conversations with
17
     representatives of KIUC?
18
              Α,
                     Yes.
19
              Q.
                     And do you recall conversations with
20
     representatives of Kroger?
21
                     Yes.
             Α.
22
                     How about the low-income
              Q .
23
     representatives?
             Α.
24
                     Yes.
25
                     Any others that you can recall?
              Q.
```

- A. We had discussions with North American

  Stainless. I think those were primarily it.
  - Q. Okay. Prior to April 28, 2004, the date of the first informal conference, I presume -- or rather I should say it is my understanding that all issues were still outstanding except for possibly issues related to Kroger. Is that a fair characterization?
    - A. Very much so.

2.0

- Q. Okay. Take me through the events of April 28th, 2004, the informal conference, that day, if you can recall it. That would be a Wednesday. The way I always mark it, Mr. Beer, it's the Wednesday before Derby.
- A. It was. It was, indeed. The -- I can't answer that question because I was not present at that informal conference. I was with a smaller group of people back at our offices meeting with NAS trying to resolve the issues surrounding their complaint and the drafting of a tariff that would ultimately apply to them and other similarly-situated customers, so I was not there on the 28th in the commission offices.
- Q. All right. I take it you were unsuccessful in your efforts on April 28th with NAS.

```
1
             Α.
                     On that date we were unsuccessful.
 2
             Q.
                     Okay. April 29th, Thursday, did you
     participate in negotiations at the Public Service
 3
     Commission about the rate cases or NAS or someplace
     else?
 5
             Α.
                     I don't recall anything specific on
 6
 7
     Thursday.
             Q.
                     Okay. On either April 28th or
 8
     April 29th, did you have any communications with any
 9
     member of the staff?
10
11
             Α.
                     No.
12
             Q.
                     Okay. Did you have any communications
     with any commission member --
13
14
             Α.
                     No.
15
             Q.
                     -- about the rate cases?
16
             Α.
                     None.
17
                     Okay. April 30th, Oaks Day, did you
             Q.
     participate in discussions with any of the
18
19
     interveners on that day?
                     Yes, I did.
20
             Α.
21
                     Okay. Tell me what you did.
             0.
22
                     Mr. Riggs and I and Mr. McCall met
             Α.
23
     with representatives of the attorney general's office
24
     at the attorney general's office that morning in an
25
     effort to try to resolve the issues that were
```

preventing the attorney general from completing the settlement in the rate case.

- Q. Okay. Prior to that meeting, did you have an understanding with all other interveners, other than North American Stainless, on issues related to the two rate cases?
- A. My recollection is at that point that we did not have an agreement on all issues other than the attorney general's issues. We were certainly making progress, but there were -- again, my recollection is that there were further negotiations that were required on -- on a number of issues.
- Q. All right. It has been represented to me that the issues really revolve -- in the rate cases, while complicated -- really revolve themselves around two axes, if you will: one, rate design, or rate allocation as it's commonly known; and revenue requirement. Is that a fair statement?
  - A. It's very fair.
- Q. Okay. And that the attorney general's issue was revenue requirement as it related to electricity.
  - A. Correct.

1.8

Q. Did he have, at that point in time, issues with regard to rate design or rate allocation,

```
"that point in time" being your meeting on
1
     April 30th?
2
             Α.
                    The primary issue discussed during
 3
     that meeting of April 30th were revenue requirement
              The attorney general certainly had an
     issues.
 6
     interest in rate design issues, but my recollection
     of those things that we discussed on the 30th, they
 7
     were primarily revenue requirement related.
 8
 9
                    Okay. Besides yourself and Mr. Riggs
             0.
     and Mr. McCall, anybody else present other than
10
     attorney general people? Let me make this easier for
11
           Mr. Kurtz there or Mr. Boehm?
12
                     I do not recall either of them being
13
             Α.
     there.
14
                    All right. Anybody else?
15
             Ο.
                    I don't believe so.
16
             Α.
                    Who was there for the attorney
17
             Q.
     general?
18
                    Mr. Howard, and I'm struggling with
19
     whether Ms. Blackford was there for all or a portion
20
21
     of the meeting. My recollection is she was there for
22
     at least a portion of the meeting.
                     Are you familiar with a gentleman by
23
             Ο.
24
     the name of Dennis Fleming?
25
                     I've met Mr. Fleming once, but not in
             Α.
```

1 relation to this proceeding. He did not participate in the meeting 2 Q. of April 30th? 3 He was certainly not present in -- in Α. 5 the area where we were meeting, and I hesitate to use 6 the "room" because we were in an open area out in the 7 middle of the floor and he was not present there. 0. How long were you there? 8 9 Α. No more than an hour. 10 Okay. Was there any person present Q. 11 from the Public Service Commission staff and/or commission member? 12 13 Α. No. 14 Q. Okay. Was there anybody hooked up to 15 the meeting through telephone? 16 Α. No. Okay. You have no recollection of 17 Q. 18 Mr. Raff having participated in the meeting? No, sir. No, in that particular 19 Α. 20 meeting, he was not present. Okay. Fair enough. Was anything 21 Q. 22 resolved at the April 30th meeting? 23 Α. Nothing was resolved. 24 Ο. Okay. So no agreement on revenue 25 requirement or any other issues at that point in

1 time. 2 Not that I can recall, no. Α. Okay. Next week, let's start with May 3 Q. the 3rd. Let me first ask on either Derby Day or the Sunday after Derby Day, were there any discussions 5 with either staff, interveners or commission members 6 about the rate cases? 7 None that I'm aware of. 8 Α. Fair enough. Monday, May the 3rd, did 9 0. 10 you participate in discussions? We were scheduled to commence the 11 Α. actual rate case hearing that day, and it's my 12 13 recollection that Chairman Goss convened the hearing. I believe he offered the opportunity for public 14 comment and then adjourned the hearing to allow 15 negotiations to continue. 16 Okay. Now, are you thinking that that 17 Q. 18 sequencing of events occurred on the first day of 19 hearing? Yes. 20 Α. Okay. I'm representing to you the 21 Q. 22 first day of hearing was actually May the 4th, 23 Tuesday. 4th, okay, all right. 24 Α. Okay. May the 3rd would have been a 25 Q.

```
1
     nonscheduled hearing day. And thus my question, did
 2
     you participate in negotiations with any of the
     interveners on that day?
 3
                     I'm trying to recall the activity of
                I simply don't have a recollection.
 5
     that day.
 6
             Ο.
                    Fair enough. May the 4th, first day
 7
     of hearing.
             Α.
                    Right. May 4th is -- as I was
 8
 9
     mistaken, the chairman did convene the hearing, then
10
     adjourned it for further negotiations.
11
             Q.
                    Okay. Did you participate in the
12
     negotiations?
13
             Α.
                    Yes.
14
             Q.
                    Okay. And where were the
15
     negotiations?
16
             Α.
                    The negotiations took place in and
17
     around the commission headquarters.
                    Okay. I'm smiling because it --
18
             Ο.
19
     geographically it sounded like it was all over the
20
     place. But were you in a particular room?
21
                    Well, we were -- we were in the -- I
             Α.
22
     believe it was hearing room 2 or 1A.
                                            It's the
23
     smaller hearing room behind the main hearing room,
24
     and that was more or less the center of negotiations.
25
     But as -- as interveners and companies were
```

```
discussing individual issues, those folks would have
 1
     broken off and adjourned to another room somewhere in
 2
     the -- in the building to continue their
 3
     negotiations.
             0.
                    Were all negotiations reported back to
     the main group?
 6
                    Yes, yes.
 7
             Α.
                     Okay. I've been advised that Mr. Watt
             0.
 8
 9
     served as a scrivener for various agreements that
     were reached during the course of May 4th, 5th and
10
     6th.
           Is that correct?
11
                    As agreements were reached, they would
12
     come back and they would be reported, they would be
13
     written down. The objective was to reduce everything
14
15
     to -- to a -- to what ultimately became the
     stipulation and partial settlement agreement.
16
                    Okay. Do I take it that all
17
             0.
     parties -- all interveners, LG&E and KU, were working
18
     toward a settlement of all issues?
19
20
             Α.
                     Yes.
                     Okay. How long were you there on May
21
             Q.
22
     the 4th?
23
                     My recollection is very late in the
             Α.
     evening. Late into the evening. I would say perhaps
24
```

as late as 8:00 or 9:00.

Okay. May the 4th? 1 Q. 2 Α. Yes. Okay. And tell me, if you can, who, 3 Q. if anyone, was present during the settlement discussions from the Public Service Commission staff. 5 6 Α. Richard Raff was present during some, but certainly not all of the sessions that were held. 7 I believe at At times Isaac Scott was in the room. times Jeff Shaw was in the room. But again, they 9 were -- they were present in their room for very 10 limited -- for very limited periods of time. 11 Mr. Raff was present more frequently, but certainly 12 not during the entirety of the proceedings either. 13 Okay. Now, are you speaking for all 14 Ο. days here, May 4, 5 and 6? 15 I recall periods of time during those Α. 16 days where Mr. Raff was absent from the room. 17 Okay. How about Mr. Scott and 18 0. Mr. Shaw? 19 Certainly there were times when they 20 Α. were absent from the room as well. 21 Okay. Do you have a recollection of 22 0. any communication coming from any of the three 23 gentlemen to the group as a whole on May 4th, 5th and 24 6th? 25

A. Can you help me understand what you mean by communication?

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- Q. Were they discussing the issues or were they simply there to observe and let the parties sort themselves out?
- Mr. Scott, Mr. Shaw may have responded Α. to a question about commission precedent or commission practice in administering a tariff or a Their involvement would have been very provision. brief. There communication would have been very brief or very limited. Mr. Raff -- Mr. Raff on occasion would -- and he made it very clear it was his own personal view and his own personal belief, but would on occasion participate in the discussions from the standpoint of I think trying to facilitate movement, trying to keep the process moving forward, but certainly didn't take an active or aggressive role in -- in moving the parties, pushing the parties in any direction.

(OFF THE RECORD)

- Q. We were talking about the events of May the 4th. I take it the parties negotiated well into the evening?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Okay. And were any agreements reached

on revenue requirement or rate design as of end of 1 negotiation session May 4th? 2 Well, my understanding as of May 4th, the issue of revenue requirement itself had been agreed to by all parties except the attorney general, 5 6 and the discussions that were taking place now were discussions pertaining to rate design. 7 allocation among customer classes of the increase in 8 9 rates, issues involving -- well, the North American 10 Stainless issue was, as of on the 4th anyway, I believe, still outstanding, the design of that 11 12 particular tariff. But by that point the issues 13 outstanding were primarily specific to individual 14 interveners. So that I'm clear, in addition to the 15 0. 16 individual intervener issues, you still had no 17 agreement on revenue requirement. Am I correct? 18 Α. Not from the entirety of all parties, 19 no, sir. 20 The attorney general was not in Q. agreement --21 22 Α. Correct. 23 -- as of the end of the negotiation Ο. 24 session? 25 Α. As it pertained to electricity.

Q. Yes, okay. May the 5th, tell me what you recall of the events of May the 5th. Maybe I can be helpful to you. Do you recall, for instance, testimony being given on --

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23

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- Yeah. And I'm -- what I'm trying to get in my mind is at that point where the -- the partial settlement and stipulation had pretty much been reduced to writing and signed by all of the parties, and that may have been what happened late on the evening of the 4th. At some point -- and it may have been the 5th -- I recall it -- it being certainly the second or third day that hearings were scheduled, that the attorney general's witnesses that related to revenue requirement issues were put on the stand and offered for cross-examination. And they were, in fact, then cross-examined by all of the parties, or by those parties -- every party had the opportunity to cross-examine them. Certainly those that had an interest in doing so did.
- Q. Were there further negotiations on May the 5th amongst all the interveners and LG&E and KU?
- A. My recollection is by the time that the hearing was formally reconvened for purposes of taking testimony, that all matters outstanding amongst all of the parties, except for revenue

requirement, had been -- had been resolved. And so
the only issue outstanding when the attorney
general's witnesses were offered for
cross-examination would have been revenue
requirement.

б

2.0

- Q. Okay. Was there at any time on either May 4th or May 5th where you believed that there was an agreement reached amongst all interveners, including the attorney general, on revenue requirement?
- A. I'm sorry I'm taking so long. I'm being very careful to try to reconstruct the 4th and what happened that night in my mind. There was there was a point in time where we had an agreement where we believed or we believed we had an agreement on the issue of revenue requirement with the attorney general. There was a point in time where the company had agreed to adjust its revenue requirement in a way that would allow for certain costs to be recovered through another mechanism. That agreement, had it held, would have resolved all outstanding issues.

At some point the attorney general rescinded its -- his agreement to that arrangement and indicated that the -- the figure was not -- was

not supported -- not supportable certainly by the evidence, and we proceeded to -- to the hearing. And I believe it was -- it was certainly the morning before -- the morning before the attorney general's witnesses were put on the stand that the issue of -- of a tainted process was first brought to light in the hearing room at the Public Service Commission.

- Q. Okay. Let me see if I can focus your recollection. Do you have a recollection that by end of negotiation on May the 4th, first day of hearing, that there was an agreement on revenue requirement or not?
- A. Mr. Goldberg, there was a night -- and I'm struggling with the chronology. There was a night where there was much jubilation that we had settled the case, as far as the revenue requirement is concerned. I simply am struggling to place that on May 4th.
- Q. All right. Let me see if I can help you a little bit. I'm representing to you that on May the 5th the attorney general physically came to the offices of the Public Service Commission and held a press conference. I'm further representing to you that on May the 6th, as part of the public record, Richard Raff identified that the attorney general

that morning had been on the radio stating that the process, in his mind, had been tainted by ex parte, collusive or inappropriate behaviors. Using that all public appearances and/or public record as reference points, does that refresh your recollection of the chain of events?

- A. Well, certainly on -- on May 5th when Mr. Raff made that -- and I do recall him making that statement in the --
  - Q. May the 6th --

1.0

- A. -- or May the 6th when he made that statement. We then proceeded for the -- we had an agreement, I believe, on the 4th. And on the 5th the agreement was -- was rescinded.
- Q. Okay. Now, with regard to the recision, do you remember how you first learned that the agreement had been rescinded?
- A. Mr. Howard came into the room where all of the parties had been assembled and had announced that the deal was off, that that -- and I'm not going to even attempt to paraphrase what he said, but we were first informed of the fact that the attorney general -- that there was no deal on revenue requirement issues through Mr. Howard.
  - Q. Okay. Did the parties then proceed to

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1
     put evidence on on that day?
                     The attorney general was the only
 2
             Α.
     party that put evidence on --
 3
             Q.
                     Okay.
                     -- in the hearing.
 5
             Α.
                     On the 5th?
             Ο,
 6
                     And that was through his revenue
 7
             Α.
     requirement witnesses.
 8
                     Okay. Would that have been on the 5th
             0.
 9
     and/or 6th, or do you recall?
10
                     My recollection, I keep recalling it
11
             Α.
12
     as being the 5th.
                     All right. Now, do you know whether
13
             0.
1.4
     or not the attorney general made an appearance at the
15
     Public Service Commission and had a press conference
     on the 5th?
16
17
             Α.
                     I recall -- I do know that the
     attorney general was -- was in the parking lot
18
     appearing in front of -- of the media. I believe it
19
     was on the 5th.
2.0
                     Did you have, either on the 4th or the
21
             0.
     5th, any conversations -- did you participate in any
22
23
     conversations with the attorney general personally?
24
                     Attorney general meaning Mr. Stumbo?
             Α.
25
                     Yes.
             Q.
```

A. No, sir.

- Q. At any time did you have any conversations with him personally?
- A. I've never had any conversations with Mr. Stumbo.
  - Q. Okay. Anything else you remember about the events of May 5th? Were the parties still negotiating on that day? And again, when I say negotiation, after testimony was taken and the commission members closed the formal part of the hearing?
  - A. There were no negotiations that took place after that point.
  - Q. Okay. Again, using the methodology that was in place on the 4th in terms of the discussions and the available hearing room, were there discussions on May the 5th similar to that?
  - A. Again, it is my recollection that the attorney general's witnesses went up on May 5th. And prior to proceeding with those witnesses being available for cross-examination, negotiations amongst all of the parties would have concluded with the execution of the stipulation and partial settlement agreement, and that occurred the night before. And my recollection is that that's the 5th. I may be in

I may be missing it by a day, but 1 2 irrespective of the day of the chronology of events was, the parties reduced all of their agreements to 3 that single document prior to the attorney general's witnesses going on the witness stand. 5 Was the North American Stainless Q. 6 situation concluded by that time? 7 Α. Yes, it was. 8 That was a separate negotiation? 9 Q. Separate in the sense that it did not 10 Α. 11 take place in the room in which all other parties were -- were present, but it was -- it was conducted 12 during that timeframe and in that building. 13 14 Q. Did you participate in that discussion? 15 Yes, I did. 16 Α. Okay. Was that concluded by the time 17 Ο. 18 the attorney general put evidence of revenue 19 requirement on? 20 Α. My recollection is that it was, yes. 21 Okay. So that by the time -- am I Q. correct that by the time the attorney general put his 22 evidence on, all issues had been resolved except for 23 the revenue requirement related to electricity? 24 I believe that's an accurate Α. 25

1 statement.

- Q. All right. Anything else you recall from the events of May the 5th?
  - A. I recall that we did not get through all of the -- the attorney general's witnesses that day, and we carried the hearing over.
    - Q. To May the 6th?
    - A. To May the 6th.
  - Q. Okay. On May the 6th, or the third day of actual hearing of testimony, do you recall Mr. Raff's remarks that we identified earlier?
  - A. Mr. Raff -- I recall the remarks that Mr. Raff made advising of the attorney general's allegations of the process being collusive. And I recall that the chair was outraged at that. My reaction was that he was somewhat outraged by that. The -- the parties were then polled, starting with the attorney general's representation -- or representatives, whether they had any knowledge of any -- any of the wrongful conduct that had been alleged.

And my recollection is that Mr. Howard represented that certainly to the extent that he had been involved and present in various proceedings or discussions or negotiations, that no such conduct had

occurred, but he wouldn't make that statement to those that may have occurred outside his presence.

Then all other parties went on record as saying that they had not seen, nor were they aware of any of the wrongful conduct that the attorney general had alleged to take place. Now, whether that occurred on the 5th or the 6th, that's where I simply am having trouble fixing it to a specific date, but the chronology of events I'm very clear on.

- Q. Okay. After persons in the room went on record as to their lack of knowledge about ex parte, inappropriate or collusive behavior, was evidence then put into the record, continued to be put into the record?
- A. I believe we went ahead with additional testimony from the attorney general's witnesses. That certainly was not the last event that happened before the chair adjourned the hearing.
- Q. Okay. Do you recall any other days in which a hearing occurred with regard to the rate cases? The official record indicates that May the 12th, the following week, there was a hearing.
- A. We were -- we were originally scheduled for three days, I believe, 4, 5 and 6, and then it was continued to the following week. And I'm

```
sorry, I don't recall the specific events of that
1
2
     day.
                    All right. Do you recall being there,
 3
             Q .
     present?
 4
                     On the 12th?
 5
             Α.
             0.
                     Yes.
 6
                     What day of the week was that?
 7
             Α.
                     I presume it would have been a
 8
             Q.
     Tuesday --
 9
                     Tuesday?
10
             Α.
                     -- or Wednesday. Wednesday, probably.
11
             Q.
     It is a -- would have been Wednesday.
12
                     Yes, I recall being there.
13
                     All right. And I take it from your
14
             Q.
15
     reticence you do not recall specifically any activity
16
     on that day.
17
             Α.
                     What I remember is -- is -- the one
     thing I do specifically recall is the commission --
18
19
     the chairman -- Chairman Goss adjourning the hearing.
     What I -- what I -- that may have -- that's -- that's
20
     the most specific recollection I have of that day.
21
                     Okay. Now, I'll represent to you the
22
     commission issued its ruling on June the 30th, 2004.
23
24
             Α.
                     Mm-hmm.
                     In between April 28th, 2004 and
25
             Q.
```

June 30th, 2004, did you have any conversations about 1 2 the rate cases with the any commission member? None whatsoever. 3 Α. And let me ask you the same question Ο. 5 with regard to staff other than participation in the hearing room where negotiations and/or evidence was 6 actually taken. 7 No, sir, I would not. And then finally let me ask you the Ο. 9 question specifically with regard to Mr. Dorman, any 10 11 conversations with him? I don't recall even talking to 12 Α. Mr. Dorman -- no, I don't recall ever even having a 13 14 conversation with Mr. Dorman during that time period. Fair enough. Now, with regard to 15 0. ex parte communications, I trust as a lawyer you have 16 17 an understanding of what ex parte communications are. 18 Α. Yes, sir. 19 0. Further, am I correct that there is a 20 prohibition at LG&E Energy, LLC, about ex parte 21 communications of any regulatory bodies? That's correct. 22 Α. Is that part of the training given at 23 0. LG&E Energy, LLC, to employees? 24 It -- there -- it's not part of any 25 Α.

formal training module or protocol. But certainly it is part of the -- a new employee comes into the area where they may come in contact with regulators, and it's just a part of their everyday training. It's -- you know, you're -- you're told from the outset about the rules against ex parte communications, that we take those rules very seriously, that we don't engage in any ex parte communications, that there is very -- a very clear line across which we do not step. And it's -- you know, whether you're in meetings or private briefings or whether it's outside counsel or me or internal supervision or whomever, it's just part of our culture and part of our way of life that you don't do that.

- Q. Are you familiar with, by the way of institutional memory at LG&E Energy, LLC, the case of Louisville Gas & Electric versus Cowan?
- A. Yes, yes. And that -- to answer your question, yes, I'm aware of that.
- Q. Okay. And what is your understanding of the holding of that case?
- A. Well, my understanding of that case is that any communications that are conducted with a decision maker outside of the presence of other parties made with the intent to influence the

```
1
     decision maker on a particular outcome are
2
     specifically forbidden.
                     Okay. And using that as a reference
 3
             Q.
     for the two rate cases we've been discussing, did you
     personally witness anything that you thought was an
5
     ex parte communication during your participation in
 6
     these events?
7
                     I never personally witnessed anything
 8
             Α.
9
     that gave me concern.
10
                     Let me ask you the same question.
             Q.
                                                          Did
     you witness anything that you thought was
11
     inappropriate or evidence of collusive behavior
12
     during your participation in this matter?
13
14
                     No, sir.
             Α.
15
                     MR. GOLDBERG:
                                    That's all I have.
16
     Thanks much.
17
                     THE WITNESS:
                                   Thank you.
18
19
                     (STATEMENT CONCLUDED AT 2:25 P.M.)
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

1	STATE OF KENTUCKY )( )( SS:
2	COUNTY OF JEFFERSON ) (
3	
4	I, ELLEN L. COULTER, Notary Public,
5	State of Kentucky at Large, hereby certify that the foregoing sworn statement was taken at the time and
6	place stated in the caption; that the appearances were as set forth in the caption; that prior to
7	giving testimony the witness was first duly sworn by me; that said testimony was taken down by me in
8	stenographic notes and thereafter reduced under my supervision to the foregoing typewritten pages and that said typewritten transcript is a true, accurate
9	and complete record of my stenographic notes so taken.
10	I further certify that I am not
11	related by blood or marriage to any of the parties hereto and that I have no interest in the outcome of captioned case.
12	My commission as Notary Public expires  November 5, 2007.
13	Given under my hand this the
14	day of // , 2005, at Louisville,
15	Kentucky.
16	Must Martin
17	Jana Coulle
18	ELLEN L. COULTER NOTARY PUBLIC
19	NOTART TOBLIC
20	
21	
22	
23	
2 4	
25	

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1	I, the undersigned, MICHAEL S. BEER, do
2	hereby certify that I have read the foregoing sworn
3	statement, and that, to the best of my knowledge,
4	said sworn statement is true and accurate, with the
5	exception of the corrections, if any, listed on the
6	errata sheet.
7	. 11/10
8	Malle
9	MICHAEL S. BEER
10	ı.
11	Subscribed and sworn to before me this $19^{10}$
12	day of Systember, 2005.
13	
14	
15	
16	Carol G. Hardison NOTARY PUBLIC
17	
18	
19	My commission expires <u>August 5 2008</u>
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

# COULTER REPORTING, LLC 101 EAST KENTUCKY STREET, SUITE 200 LOUISVILLE, KY 40203

## ERRATA SHEET

NAME MICHAEL S. BEER DATE OF DEPOSITION 8/10/05
After having read my deposition, I wish to make the following changes:
Page 13 Line 11 "contact" not "contract"
Change "contact" not "contract"
Reason for change clarification
Page 24 Line 14 Change "Rives" not "Reeves"
Reason for change clarification
Page 29 Line 25 Change "involving the Rate Cases" between "None" and "that" Reason for change clarification
Page 30 Line 4 Change "involving the Rate Cases" after "None" Reason for change clarification
Page 30 Line 6 Change "involving the Rate Cases" after "None" Reason for change clarification
Page 30 Line 24 Change "involving the Rate Cases" after first "none" Reason for change clarification
Page 34 Line 13 Change add to answer ", at least that I can recall." Reason for change clarification
Keason for change
Page Line Change
Reason for change
Page Line Change
Reason for change

-- [1] 28/18 allow [2] 45/15 52/19 association [4] 16/20 16/22 18/11 18/20 D.C[1] 17/22 allowed [1] 27/23 **assume** [1] 6/15 LLC [10] 4/5 4/8 21/12 27/12 30/19 31/3 almost [1] 4/23 assumed [1] 6/2 assumption [1] 22/17 33/21 38/3 61/20 61/24 along [1] 31/3 LLC -- [1] 39/6 also [7] 5/4 15/17 16/13 19/14 31/2 at [74] 31/17 33/24 Atlanta [4] 20/4 20/10 20/25 21/9 always [4] 12/20 28/21 38/12 40/13 attempt [1] 54/21 am [13] 3/17 3/18 15/20 16/13 20/8 31/5 - [210] attend [4] 16/10 16/15 19/7 19/15 32/24 50/17 53/17 57/21 59/7 61/19 64/10 attendance [2] 19/13 31/1 attended [4] 20/15 30/9 32/12 33/4 **Amato [1]** 6/12 a -- [2] 47/15 60/12 American [13] 18/16 33/13 33/16 33/18 attorney [36] 3/17 38/12 39/13 41/23 about [31] 7/4 9/10 11/22 12/4 12/5 34/2 34/19 36/17 37/2 38/15 40/1 42/5 41/24 42/1 42/9 42/20 43/5 43/11 43/17 15/19 27/4 27/14 29/18 29/19 30/22 31/24 50/9 57/6 50/5 50/20 51/13 52/2 52/9 52/17 52/23 32/9 32/11 34/12 34/19 35/7 35/8 38/4 among [1] 50/8 53/4 53/21 53/25 54/23 55/2 55/14 55/18 39/22 41/4 41/15 45/7 48/18 49/7 49/21 amongst [4] 51/21 51/25 52/8 56/21 55/23 55/24 56/19 57/4 57/18 57/22 58/5 amount [1] 27/25 58/13 58/18 59/5 59/16 analysis [5] 22/20 23/7 24/12 24/13 25/1 audit [10] 14/17 14/18 15/1 15/3 15/5 56/7 59/11 61/1 61/20 62/5 absent [2] 48/17 48/21 academics [1] 17/10 analyst [1] 24/24 15/6 15/7 15/12 15/13 15/17 analyze [1] 22/15 accident [1] 13/11 **AUGUST [3]** 1/18 3/5 18/4 accountants [1] 17/10 and -- [3] 13/15 18/5 35/19 authority [3] 5/2 9/2 12/13 accounting [1] 24/2 announced [1] 54/20 available [5] 9/7 25/25 28/9 56/16 56/21 accurate [2] 57/25 64/8 annual [1] 18/1 aware [6] 13/21 28/6 28/13 45/8 59/4 acquaintance [4] 6/22 7/1 7/1 7/19 another [3] 9/7 47/2 52/20 62/19 acquaintance -- [1] 7/1 answer [6] 6/18 6/20 7/3 8/9 40/16 axes [1] 42/16 acquainted [1] 8/3 62/18 В across [3] 16/23 18/14 62/9 any [67] active [1] 49/17 any -- [2] 8/4 58/20 B-E-E-R [1] 3/11 activity [2] 46/4 60/15 back [8] 4/7 5/22 8/12 15/18 27/9 40/18 anybody [5] 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[2] 17/18 18/14 28/4 28/14 28/17 28/18 28/20 29/1 29/14 14/3 23/6 25/5 27/7 27/22 28/3 28/6 33/12 County [2] 38/18 64/2 30/8 30/15 34/20 34/22 35/8 36/18 37/2 35/14 52/18 course [1] 47/10 37/25 38/23 42/2 45/12 53/16 62/16 62/21 complaint [5] 12/24 33/19 34/10 34/12 courtesy [1] 29/10 62/22 64/11 40/20 Cowan [1] 62/17 case -- [1] 34/22 complaints [1] 13/3 cross-examination [4] 26/1 51/15 52/4 cases [26] 15/10 19/2 25/13 27/15 27/15 **complete** [1] 64/9 30/14 33/7 34/20 34/21 35/2 35/9 35/11 cross-examine [1] 51/18 completing [1] 42/1 36/15 36/16 37/3 37/15 38/5 38/10 41/4 complicated [1] 42/15 cross-examined [1] 51/16 41/15 42/6 42/15 45/7 59/21 61/2 63/4 **complicated -- [1]** 42/15 **culture [1]** 62/13 cases -- [1] 36/15 component [1] 24/10 curious [1] 27/3 center [2] 2/9 46/24 comprised [1] 23/23 Currently [1] 3/18 CEO [1] 23/14 concept [1] 35/19 customer [1] 50/8 certain [1] 52/19 concern [3] 9/4 18/22 63/9 customers [2] 38/14 40/22 concerned [1] 53/17 certainly [27] 10/20 11/14 13/13 20/9 20/19 22/24 28/6 29/16 35/6 36/20 39/4 concluded [4] 56/22 57/7 57/17 63/19 39/11 42/9 43/5 44/4 48/7 48/12 48/20 concurrence [1] 22/24 **D.C[1]** 17/22 49/17 51/12 51/18 53/1 53/3 54/7 58/23 Daryl [4] 14/10 14/15 14/20 15/6 concurrent [1] 15/14 59/17 62/1 date [11] 6/13 26/5 26/9 30/9 34/15 condition [1] 22/16 certify [2] 64/4 64/10

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